

# CTA | Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF

## FUND OVERVIEW

The **Simplify Managed Futures Strategy ETF (CTA)** seeks long-term capital appreciation by systematically investing in commodity and financial futures (excluding equities and currencies) in an attempt to create an absolute return profile that also has a low correlation to equities and can provide support in risk-off events.

To this end, CTA deploys a suite of systematic models that have been designed by Altis Partners, a commodity trading advisor with over 20 years of experience.

## PERFORMANCE REVIEW

CTA traded well until mid-December, relinquishing its strong 4Q start due to a consistent short-duration position. Direct interest rate shorts detracted approximately 9% from performance, while correlated rate positions like precious metals, and separately cattle, experienced additional losses. Agricultural commodities like sugar, corn, and soybeans, as well as natural gas and copper, were additive. The fund continued to demonstrate its near-zero correlation to equities and its trademark diversification benefits. Realized volatility has been running at the higher end of recent history (18%) owing to the sharp gyrations at the front-end of global yield curves. Our view is that overall market choppiness and the likely lack of a trend in equity and FX markets will be a headwind for CTA's competitors, and we are optimistic that CTA will reassert its gains in 2024.

**Performance as of 12/31/23** | Inception Date: 03/07/22

|                     | CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN |        |        |                 | ANNUALIZED TOTAL RETURN |                 |
|---------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
|                     | 3 Mo                    | 6 Mo   | YTD    | Since Inception | 1 Year                  | Since Inception |
| <b>NAV</b>          | -8.43%                  | -1.22% | -3.52% | 7.89%           | -3.52%                  | 4.26%           |
| <b>Market Price</b> | -8.41%                  | -0.69% | -2.25% | 7.08%           | -2.25%                  | 3.84%           |
| <b>SG CTA Index</b> | -5.98%                  | -3.52% | -3.42% | 3.49%           | -3.42%                  | 2.52%           |

The performance data quoted represents past performance and does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the performance data quoted. In addition, investment returns and the principal value of an investment will fluctuate so that an investor's shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than their original cost. For performance data current to the most recent month-end, please call (855) 772-8488 or go to <https://www.simplify.us/etfs>.

## FUND DETAILS as of 12/31/23

### TOP TEN HOLDINGS\*

| POSITION        | ALLOCATION |
|-----------------|------------|
| B 01/11/24 Govt | 70.76%     |
| B 03/28/24 Govt | 20.24%     |
| HGH4 Comdty     | 19.23%     |
| HGK4 Comdty     | 3.91%      |
| B 04/16/24 Govt | 3.22%      |
| LCM4 Comdty     | 1.43%      |
| LCJ4 Comdty     | 1.30%      |
| B 04/09/24 Govt | 0.72%      |
| HGN4 Comdty     | 0.71%      |
| W H4 Comdty     | 0.23%      |
| Cash            | 5.06%      |

\*Holdings are subject to change without notice.

### DEFINITIONS

**Backwardation:** The pattern of higher futures prices for shorter expiration futures contracts.

**Contango:** The pattern of higher futures contract prices for longer expiration contracts.

**Duration:** A measure of the sensitivity of the price of a bond or other debt instrument to a change in interest rates.

**Long/Short Managed Futures:** A systematic, rule-based investment strategy that can generally go long or short futures contracts across equities, fixed income, commodities, and foreign-exchange markets.

**Market Price:** The current price at which shares are bought and sold. Market returns are based upon the last trade price.

**NAV:** The dollar value of a single share, based on the value of the underlying assets of the fund minus its liabilities, divided by the number of shares outstanding. Calculated at the end of each business day.

### FUND DETAILS

|                               |       |
|-------------------------------|-------|
| Gross Expense Ratio           | 0.78% |
| Net Expense Ratio             | —     |
| SEC 30-Day Yield              | 3.45% |
| SEC 30-Day Yield Unsubsidized | 3.45% |

## DEFINITIONS (cont'd)

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**Risk-Off:** A model that looks to protect the portfolio from an equity drawdown by quickly buying bonds in weaker equity markets and remaining out of bond in stronger equity markets. This is distinct from a long bond trend signal given its typically shorter forecasting horizon and reliance on equity index signals rather than a bond signal.

**Rolling:** occurs when the Fund closes out of a Futures Contract as it nears its expiration and replaces it with a contract that has a later expiration.

**Schedule K-1:** A federal tax document used to report the income, losses, and dividends of a business' or financial entity's partners or an S corporation's shareholders.

**SEC 30-Day Yield:** The yield is calculated with a standardized formula and represents net investment income earned by a fund over a 30-day period, expressed as an annual percentage rate based on the fund's share price. The yield includes the effect of any fee waivers and/or reimbursements. Without waivers, yields would be reduced. This is also referred to as the "standardized yield", "30-Day Yield" and "Current Yield". The unsubsidized SEC 30-Day Yield does not reflect the effect of any fee waivers and/or expense reimbursements.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

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**Investors should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges and expenses of Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) before investing. To obtain an ETF's prospectus containing this and other important information, please call (855) 772-8488 or view or download a prospectus online. Please read the prospectus carefully before you invest.**

**An investment in the fund involves risk, including possible loss of principal.**

The fund is new and has a limited operating history to evaluate. The fund is actively-managed and subject to the risk that the strategy may not produce the intended results. The fund will also rely on the Futures Adviser's judgments about the value and potential appreciation of particular securities which if assessed incorrectly could negatively affect the Fund.

The Fund's use of futures may involve different or greater risks than investing directly in securities and the contract may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset. These risks include leverage risk which means a small percentage of assets invested in futures can have a disproportionately large impact on the Fund. This risk could cause the Fund to lose more than the principal amount invested. Futures contracts may become mispriced or improperly valued when compared to the adviser's expectation and may not produce the desired investment results. The Fund's exposure to futures contracts is subject to risks related to rolling. Extended periods of contango or backwardation can cause significant losses for the Fund. Any short sales of the futures contracts by the fund theoretically involves unlimited loss potential since the market price of securities sold short may continuously increase.

Investments linked to commodity or currency futures contracts including exposure to non-U.S. currencies can be highly volatile affected by market movements, changes in interest rates or factors affecting a particular industry or commodity. Changes in currency exchange rates can be unpredictable or change quickly which will affect the value of the Fund.

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